

## Message Text

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ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 ACDA-12 AID-05 MCE-00  
OMB-01 EUR-12 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 DODE-00  
SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 H-01  
TRSE-00 /082 W  
-----037550 241542Z /45

O 241430Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2816  
INFO CHUSMTM DHAHRAN IMMEDIATE  
USMTM RIYADH IMMEDIATE  
AMDMBASSY SANA IMMEDIATE 2508  
USLO RIYADH IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JIDDA 5443

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MARR, MASS, YE, SA, US, UR  
SUBJECT: MILITARY SUPPORT FOR YAR

REF: JIDDA 5342

1. AS RESULT OF FURTHER REFLECTION AND ADDITIONAL CONSULTATIONS WITH USMTM, WE HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITY OVER PAST FEW DAYS TO ELABORATE OUR EARLIER THINKING CONTAINED IN REFTEL ON WAYS SAUDI ARABIA AND US MIGHT COOPERATE TO STRENGTHEN YAR MILITARY DEFENSES. THIS TELEGRAM THERFORE SUPPLEMENTS BUT DOES NOT REPLACE IDEAS CONTAINED IN REFTEL AND SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION THERWITH.

2. AS WE SEE IT, THE US AND SAUDI ARABIA SHARE THE FOLLOWING GOALS:

- (A) COUNTER SOVIET INFLUENCE IN YAR.
- (B) SUPPLANT SOVIET PRESENCE IN YAR.
- (C) PROMOTE STABILITY IN YAR AND IN THE REGION.

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3. TO CARRY OUT THESE GOALS, WE NEED TO DEVELOP PLANS FOR THE NEAR-TERM, THE MID-TERM, AND THE LONG-TERM. THESE PLANS SHOULD COMPLEMENT AND SUPPLEMENT EACH OTHER SO AS TO FORM A COMPREHENSIVE OVERALL PLAN LEADING TO FULFILLMENT OF THE GOALS WE HAVE SET LEADING TO FULFILLMENT OF THE GOALS WE HAVE SET FORTH. TO ACCOMPLISH OUR GOALS, WE BELIEVE AND SAG

HAS TOLD US THAT STRONG VIABLE US PRESENCE IS REQUIRED IN THE SHORT-RUN AND PERHAPS IN THE LONG-TERM AS WELL.

4. THE SCENARIO WE ENVISAGE FOR DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING THESE PLANS IS AS FOLLOWS: A PRELIMINARY MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF USMTM, EMBASSY SAND, AND EMBASSY JIDDA IN RIYADH JULY 25-27 TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE US SAID AT THE JULY 29 MEETING IN RIYADH FOR USMTM, EMBASSY JIDDA, EMBASSY SANA, CHEIF SAUDI MISSION IN YAR, AND SAUDI MIN DEF OFFICIALS. JOINT US-SAUDI MEETING WILL PROBABLY LAST TWO OR THREE DAYS, WITH THE FINAL SESSION BEING ALSO ATTENDED BY AMBASSADOR, DEP SEC OF DEFENSE ROBERT MURRAY, SAUDI MIN DEF PRINCE SULTAN, AND DEP FON MIN ABD AL-RAHMAN MANSURI. WE THEN EXPECT A JOINT US-SAUDI TEAM TO BE SENT TO SANA TO BRIEF YARG ON RESULTS OF MEETING. WE THINK THAT DEPUTY SECRETARY MURRAY NEED NOT ARRIVE IN RIYADH UNTIL SOMETIME ON JULY 29 SINCE SESSION IN WHICH WE PROPOSE THAT HE PARTICIPATE WILL NOT TAKE PLACE BEFORE JULY 30.

5. WE HAVE DEVELOPED A SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NEAR-TERM PLAN WHICH WE WILL PRESENT AT US IN-HOUSE MEETING JULY 25-27. IN OUR VIEW, IT IS  
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IMPORTANT THAT NEAR-TERM PROGRAM BE SOMETHING THAT CAN BE IMMEDIATELY VISIBLE. IN FACT, WE BELLEIVE TARGET DATE SHOULD BE SEPTEMBER 26, 1978, SINCE THAT IS YAR NATIONAL DAY AND WOULD PROVIDE EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR YARG TO SHOW OFF US MILITARY EQUIPMENT IN NATIONAL DAY MILITARY PARADE.

6. OUR NEAR-TERM PROPOSALS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) IMMEDIATE TRANSFER OF F-5B'S , WITH SAG COMMERCIAL CONTRACT WITH NORTHROP FOR MAINTENANCE. THIS JUST BE ACCOMPLISHED BY SEPTEMBER 25.

(B) IMMEDIATE TRANSITINAL TRAINING OF YAR MIG PILOTS TO FLY F-5'S. WE UNDERSTAND FROM USMTM THAT SAUDI INSTRUCTOR PILOTS CAN TRAIN YAR MIG PILOTS SUFFICIENTLY TO BE ABLE TO FLY F-5'S IN SEPTEMBER 26 PARADE.

(C) EXPEDITE AS NECESSARY DEPLOYMENT OF ESSENTIAL SUPPORT ELEMENTS SO THAT PLANES CAN BE FLOWN ON SEPTEMBER 26.

(B) TRANSFER OF 12 AB HELICOPTERS BY SEPTEMBER 26.

(E) TAKE NECESSARY STEPS TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT US ARMY EQUIPMENT IN YAR IS IN SHAPE TO BE EXHIBITED IN

MILITARY PARADE ON SEPTEMBER 26.

(F) ENCOURAGE AND EXPEDITE DELIVERY AND DISPLAY  
OOF OTHER WESTERN ANTI-ARMOR AND INTI-AIRCRAFT EQUIP-  
MENT.

(G) DETAIL US MILITARY PERSONNEL TO MONITOR  
ASSESS, AND EXPEDITE INTEGRATION OF US-PRODUCED  
EQUIPMENT INTO YAR ARMY AND AIR FORCE BY SEPTEMBER  
26.

7. WE FEEL THA NEAR-TERM PLAN SHOULD BE ACCOM-  
ANIED BY GOOD MEASURE OF DRAMATICS SO AS  
TO HAVE MAXIMUM EFFECT. WE RECOMMEND THA JOINT  
US-SAUDI TEAM WHICH WILL BE DESPATCHED TO SANA  
TO BRIEF YARG BE COMPOSED OF GROUP FROM  
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USMTM HEADED BY CHUSMTM GEN. CATHEY, SAUDI MILITARY  
CONTINGENT OF COMMENSURATE RANK, AND PERHAPS  
APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIVES FROM SAUDI MINISTRY OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND EMBASSY JIDDA. PARTIES SHOULD  
TRAVEL IN MILITARY AIRCRAFT AND MILITARY PERSONNEL  
SHOULD BE IN UNIFORM.

8. WE EXPECT US IN-HOUSE MEETING JULY 25-27 TO  
DEVELOP MID-RANGE AND LONG-RANGE PROPOSALS. WE  
ANTICIPATE THAT MID-TERM PLAN WILL INCLUDE PROVISIONS  
THAT WILL ALLOW USG AND/OR SAG TO APPROACH YARG AND  
SUGGEST THAT SOVEIT MILITARY INSTRUCTORS BE REPLACED  
BY INSTRUCTORS OF JORDANIAN, PAKISTANI, OR SOME OTHER  
NATIONALITY. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MANSURI TOLD  
AMBASSADOR AND POL COUNSELOR ON JULY 23 THAT SAG  
HAD SUGGESTED ON OCCASION TO YARG THAT SOVEITS  
BE EXPELLED FROM YAR BUT THAT YARG HAD ALWAYS REPLIED  
THAT USSR WAS IMPORTANT SUPPLIER OF MILITARY EQUIP-  
MENT. THIS MEANS THAT IF WE ARE TO ELIMINATE SOVIET  
PRESENCE IN YAR, OUR PLANS WILL HAVE TO MAKE PRO-  
VISION FOR US TO ASSUME SUPPLIER ROLE, PERHAPS  
WITH SAUDI FINANCING.

9. WE BELEIVE THAT N. YEMEN PROVIDES LOCALE TO  
DEMONSTRATE US DETERMINATION TO COUNTER GROWING  
SOVIET INFLUENCE IN AREA. WE HAVE BEEN ACCUSED  
FOF FAILURE TO TAKE STAND IN HORN, ESPECIALLY IN  
SOMALIA. A SERIOUS DEMONSTRATION OF WILL HERE  
WOULD STRENGTHEN US CREDIBILITY TO A SUBSTANTIOAL  
DEGREE WITH MINIMUM OF RISK AND WITHOUT INTERNAL  
PROBLEMS SUCH AS CONSTRAINED US POSITION IN  
SOMALIA.

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10. WE WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS FROM SANA  
AND GUIDANCE FROM DEPARTMENT FOR USE IN OUR  
IN-HOUSE MEETING WHICH BEGINS JULY 25.  
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## Message Attributes

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